

**From:** MARK GHALY  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/25/02 5:48pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement.

# Mark Ghaly

*4452 141st Avenue SE Bellevue, WA 98006-2310*

Attorney General John Ashcroft

US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20530-0001

January 23, 2002

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

In ancient Greece, a good Athenian is the one that would leave Athens better than he found it. This is precisely why I am writing you this letter. Microsoft can only be accused of democratizing the personal computer. The operating system Windows has enhanced productivity of the PC and made computing available to any one who cared to use it with minimal required skills.

Prior to Windows OS. One was a captive hostage to Apple PC with its planned obsolescence, unless one was willing to invest innumerable hours to learn DOS. I feel that Windows was a gift to us [non-computer literate] and has made computing to the average person easy, intuitive and painless. If we did not have Windows probably we would have had various competing software with a mass confusion in the market.

I am writing you to urge you and the federal government to endorse and implement the proposed settlement plan in the anti-trust case against Microsoft.

The settlement will, I think justly, allow the company to remain a single corporate entity. In view of the enormous contributions Microsoft has made to the IT industry, this a proper response to deeds done and hopefully a harbinger of future good works. Right now the industry needs a stimulant badly.

The government's plan asks a steep price for the company's continued existence. Microsoft will have to open itself up to its competitors in many ways. Windows will no longer be its sole province, nor its marketplace Trojan horse. Windows will now be configured so as to not just accept but promote others software. A government oversight committee will ensure that the company no longer engages in anti-competitive practices.

In short, I believe that the settlement is a proper workable compromise. Please support this plan. I trust and I hope that the motto of the classical Athenian would prevail

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Sincerely,

Mark Ghaly

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